

RELIGIOUS EXPLORATION

The Halloween BOOgie-- New Orleans Style was a smash success! Congratulations to Susannah Dolinar, Louis Vassar-Semanchik, Delia Vassar-Semanchik, Megan Lee and Matt Lee and Abraham Jacobs for their ideas, originality and hard work making a really fun time. Their parents, Sarah Dolinar, Cynthia Wong, Vivian Vassar and Diane Matyas were there every step of the way helping them get to church each Saturday to prepare.

Our parents also contributed supplies, food and entertainment! We can all share in our pride in the tremendous efforts extended by the youth. Special thanks to Tom Seluga for guiding the youth in constructing the haunted house and to Kathy Santo for helping with decorations.

Diane Matyas contributed the Halloween BOOgie banner that held up for another year. Alan Kindler provided story telling drawing from an arsenal of ghost stories from the bayou.

Vivian Vassar and Mark Semanchik, guided us in 2 step dancing to Zydeco. Viv also created balloon animals for the children and donated materials used for the voo good dolls. Ann Marie Selzer provided the music, along with Abraham Jacobs who was also our DJ.

Sarah Dolinar brought some shrimp and rice at the last minute, whipped up a nice New Orleans inspired treat for us towards the end and contributed decorations to the space. Thank you to Richard and Margaret Currie for collecting money at the door! Photos by Delia Vassar-Semanchik.

Thank you also to all members and guests who donated money towards our trip to New Orleans. A combination of money raised on Saturday and subsequent donations provided on Sunday, October 24th help us exceed our goal of \$300.00 by \$25.00!

If you missed it this year, come to the BOOgie next year! This was really an event for all ages.



DESCRIPTIONS OF SERVICES, CONT'D

November 28th, 10:45 a.m.

A Faith to Change the World

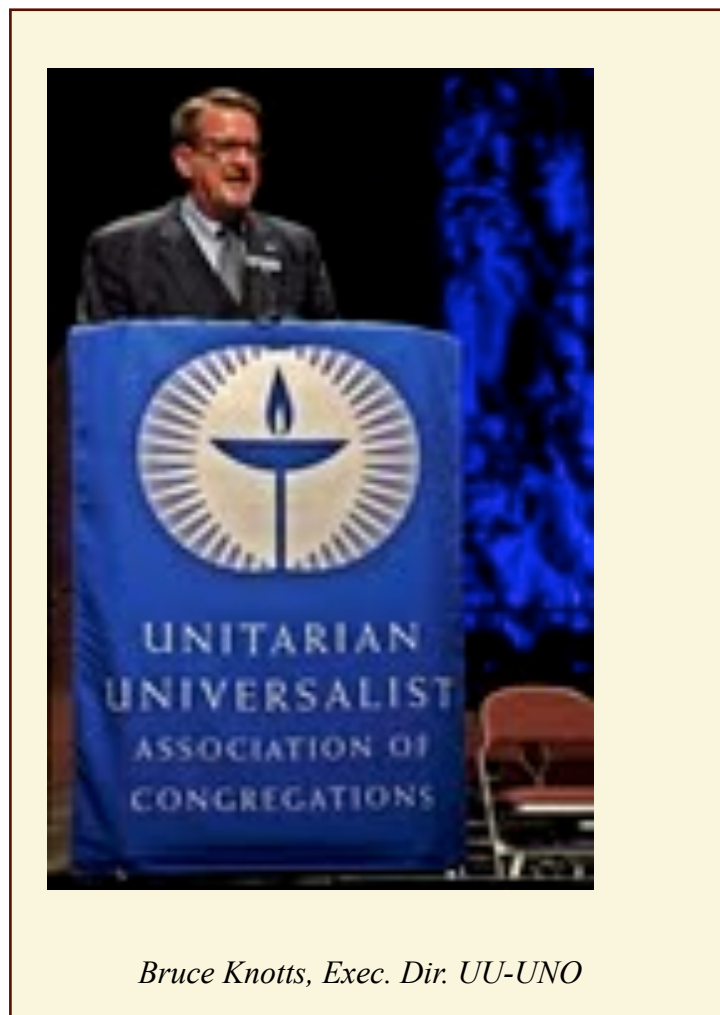
In the pulpit:

Bruce Knotts, Executive Director, Unitarian
Universalist United Nations Office (UU UNO)

Virginia Allen, Carol Lodato, UU UNO Envoys

Music: Dr. Carolyn Clark

Bruce Knotts will talk about how the UU faith motivates and empowers advocacy at the United Nations and beyond. A career diplomat, Mr. Knotts retired from the Foreign Service in 2007, becoming the UU-UNO's Executive Director in 2008.



December 5th,

10:45 a.m.

"Light One Candle"

In the pulpit:

Rev. Susan Karlson

Music:

Dr. Carolyn Clark

Peter Yarrow writes about the beauty and significance of the Festival of Chanukah in the song *Light One Candle*: "Don't let the light go out. It's lasted for so many years. Don't let the light go out. Let it shine through our love and our tears." We enter into that spirit with our Worship Celebration this morning.



SIMPLY SUSAN

I'm doing lots of odds and ends to be able to go on my trip to India about the time this newsletter comes out. Knowing that it will be time for the Thanksgiving Celebration when I return, I've been thinking a lot about what I am grateful for in connection with this church. I would love to hear what's on your Gratitude List concerning church, family, community and whatever calls to you. Here's my list beginning with all active present tense verbs:

I am grateful that the Unitarian Church of Staten Island:

1. **Nurtures** a vibrant, caring and engaged religious community
2. **Evolves** a Small Group Ministry program offering opportunities for deepening relationships and spiritual growth
3. **Maintains** Board of Trustees members, staff, officers and leaders willing to tackle tough problems with heart, courage and understanding
4. **Rebuilds** a Social Justice Committee and a widespread commitment to stand on the side of love with others in the community
5. **Works** actively to decide on community partnerships that address the violence, bias and painful life experiences that affect us all on Staten Island and beyond
6. **Participates** in the Building Bridges Interfaith Coalition that fosters enhanced understanding and peace between various faiths on Staten Island
7. **Provides** a safe and warm Shelter to ten homeless men every night
8. **Sustains** a blossoming and fruitful Religious Exploration (RE) program for our children and youth with committed RE Committee members, teachers, and parents.
9. **Supports and encourages** its youth to go to New Orleans for a service project.
10. **Celebrates** meaningful and momentous occasions and **Knows** how to have fun!
11. **Values** active participation in District events and workshops.
12. **Demonstrates** their generosity over and over when their help is needed financially, physically or emotionally
13. **Commits** their time and energy to fulfill this church's many ministries through countless volunteer hours. I've never seen such a small group of Unitarian Universalists work harder and more enthusiastically!
14. **Creates and Connects** people through the gifts of the Arts
15. **Remembers** the people who have left their imprint through the Memorial Garden.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

Susan



NOVEMBER EVENTS

FIRST FRIDAY FILM

NOV. 5TH - FOR LOCATION
mary_si_unitarian@yahoo.com

Blue Gold: World Water Wars

Narrated by Malcolm McDowell, this award-winning documentary from director Sam Bozzo posits that we're moving closer to a world in which water -- a seemingly plentiful natural resource -- could actually incite war. 2009, 90 min.

WEARABLE ART

NOV. 6TH, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00p.m.
 Parish Hall

Friends of Fire and the Arts Com. offer a chance to acquire original art to wear or give - scarves, jewelry, etc.

GREETERS WANTED AND NEEDED: ksanto15@gmail.com

Meetings

- Arts - Nov. 1st - 7:30 PH
- Membership/Caring Committee- Nov. 2nd, 7:30, Ann Kalil's house
- Social Justice - Nov. 6th, 9:30 a.m. Library
- BOARD of TRUSTEES - Nov. 10, 8:00p.m. Library - ALL WELCOME

NOTE to COMMITTEE CHAIRS:
 please let us know about meetings

FAIR PREPARATIONS

Check p.6 for schedule but especially remember handcrafted and vintage items!

NOVEMBER GREETERS

- 7th- Ruth & Randy Leason
 Rafael Martinez-Perez
- 14th - Athena Huckaby
 Rafael Martinez-Perez
- 21st - Marilyn Brook, Jim Franz
 Rafael Martinez-Perez
- 28th - Lillian Orrock
 Rafael Martinez-Perez

HOSPITALITY

- 7th - Sue Flynn
- 14th - Kate Nielsen
 Larry Schwabacher
- 21st - POTLUCK
- 28th - Morna & Ralph Martell

JOLLY HOLLY FAIR, 1852-2010

Saturday, December 4th

10:00 am-4:00 pm

The Jolly Holly Fair is one of Staten Island's best holiday fairs. We can do that year after year because we continue traditions well established at our church. We're going to retain ALL the sweetness and charm of our very special holiday fair (held consecutively since 1852!) and still find ways to make it even more appealing. We rely solely on the labor and donations of our congregation. In order to stock our fair, we call on all for their contributions.

*******Very important definitions:*******

White Elephants = very gently used only, supply batteries and instructions, if needed, no TVs, outdated electronics or cassette players.. No oversized furniture.

Books = published as of 2000 only (unless rare 1st editions....bring those to our attention, please!!!)

Boutique = regiffable worthy items only! Jewelry, scarves, gloves, vases, tea sets, serving dishes, trays, stationery, unused toiletries, Christmas items

****We do retain the right to refuse any un-needed donations so please help us in that regard: donate it only if you'd buy it yourself.****

DONATION DATES:

November 7, Sunday - **Boutique**
red things PH/Hospitality Hour

November 14, Sunday -
Children's Booth Toys & Books
Boutique jewelry & scarves PH/
Hospitality Hour

November 21, Sunday - **Boutique**
nearly new things PH/Hosp.Hour
White Elephant PH/Hosp. Hour

November 28, Sunday - **White**
Elephant PH/Hospitality Hour

" " -
Children's Booth Toys & Books
By appointment only!! REALLY!!

BOOKS - Call John Adrian
718-720-7329

Raffles (gift certificates, new
electronics- Call Rona Solomon
718-772-4653

If you know of any proprietors
(places where you shop regularly)
willing to **donate a gift**
certificate to the fair, please
contact Rona Solomon (again - the
sooner the better! Thanks!). Rona
will supply you with a donation
request letter, if needed.
Otherwise, please collect the gift
certificate and call Rona.

Every Sunday through Nov. 28 -
Arts/Crafts/Vintage PH/
Hospitality Hour

Dec 3 (eve) & Dec 4 **by 9 a.m.** -
Gourmet Delights Parish Hall

Raffles! Raffles Raffles!

Look out for the first delivery of Raffle Books to every household. They can help you meet the **JH Fair Share** challenge. What's that? **If every household contributes \$100 to our Fair, we'll reach \$10,000!** How? Buy raffles.....donate totally great items for big \$\$ sales.....spread the word and distribute flyers/ raffle tickets and increase our visitors.

Please join us! Why should we have all the fun? We'd like you to add your name to the Committee list. Perhaps you can display a **Jolly Holly lawn sign** on your block. E-mail (christinej1@verizon.net) or call (718-447-3705) Chris Johnson if you're interested or for your questions.

Friends of Fire artisans are joining us on December 4th with their own Holiday Fair held in the sanctuary. More visitors to our church for December 4th!! We're also working on cross-promotion plans with other neighborhood fairs: Christ Church, CPG Gallery and Snug Harbor Cultural Center. We are organizing **The New Brighton Neighborhood Holiday Stroll** for our holiday visitors!

LAST MONTH AND MEMBERS' NEWS

Worship Service Highlights

Who could forget Rev. Mark Kiyimba's courage and modesty as he described his own spiritual transformation and his efforts to help Ugandans most in need?

Or our own Chris Clark's beautiful singing?

Or the celebration of the Memorial Garden with its remembrance and homage to many who made our traditions?

In October.....

See page 2 for the R.E. report, on the OUTSTANDING BOOgie

The Greeters Workshop, capably led by Carol Lodato and Larry Schwabacher, generated a new enthusiasm for friendly participation ...

New Small groups were formed and met...

Early discussions continued with Rona ...

Annual Dinner happening today - yum!



members' news and views

Lisbeth Foise Eng's first novel was published in October. The novel is a romantic tale set in Europe in WW II - for more details see www.lisbetheng.com

Larry's Women spoke out at the ETG Cafe in October and will continue their uppity talk on Broadway on Nov. 19th!

Megan and Louis are happy the SATs are over - and they can get back to their real school work.

Morna & Ralph are selling their house, dramatune@yahoo.com

More pics from the BOOgie party -

Send us news & pics that are OK TO PUBLISH IN A WEB FORMAT!



LAST WORD

FROM RONA

December 4 is the Jolly Holly Fair. Our front door. For many of us, the Fair was the first time we came to the Unitarian Church of Staten Island. For many on Staten Island, it is the only time. Dedicated fair goers look forward to our crafts, elephants, treasures, books, food and, of course, the spirit.

The Fair is the most focused, involving group project we undertake. At least half our members step up to solicit, create, collect, set up, stage and sell Holly Jolly stuff. It is truly intergenerational. In its way, it is a miracle.

I remember my youngest daughter napping in a stroller, my older children walking over Afterschool at Goodhue to eat pizza dinner during the week before the Fair. I remember really meeting the older Church members for the first time as we sorted books or decided if someone's donated possessions were treasures or elephants.

Yes we hold the Fair to raise cash, but the unintended consequence is the spirit we raise, the community we foster. Come be a part of the Fair. Come December 4. And bring your friends.

LAST MINUTE REMINDER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

158th Anniversary Dinner, Saturday, October 30th,

6:00 - 10:00pm

- Good Food, Great Company
- Childcare available
- Games of Chance, Fortunetelling
- A Mystery to Solve
- \$10 individuals, \$15, families

One of the best ways to get to know fellow church members is to work together on committees and projects. Several committees are looking for members. Email office@uucsi.org

Volunteer Opportunities

PLEASE help with the Jolly Holly Fair? Advance projects in crafts, baking, raffle-solicitation, publicity, etc. Fair Day: Saturday, December 4, 2010